

Binational Toxics Strategy

PCBs

Workgroup Co-Chairs

Tony Martig, USEPA, Region 5

Ken De, Environment Canada

PCB Challenges

Canada

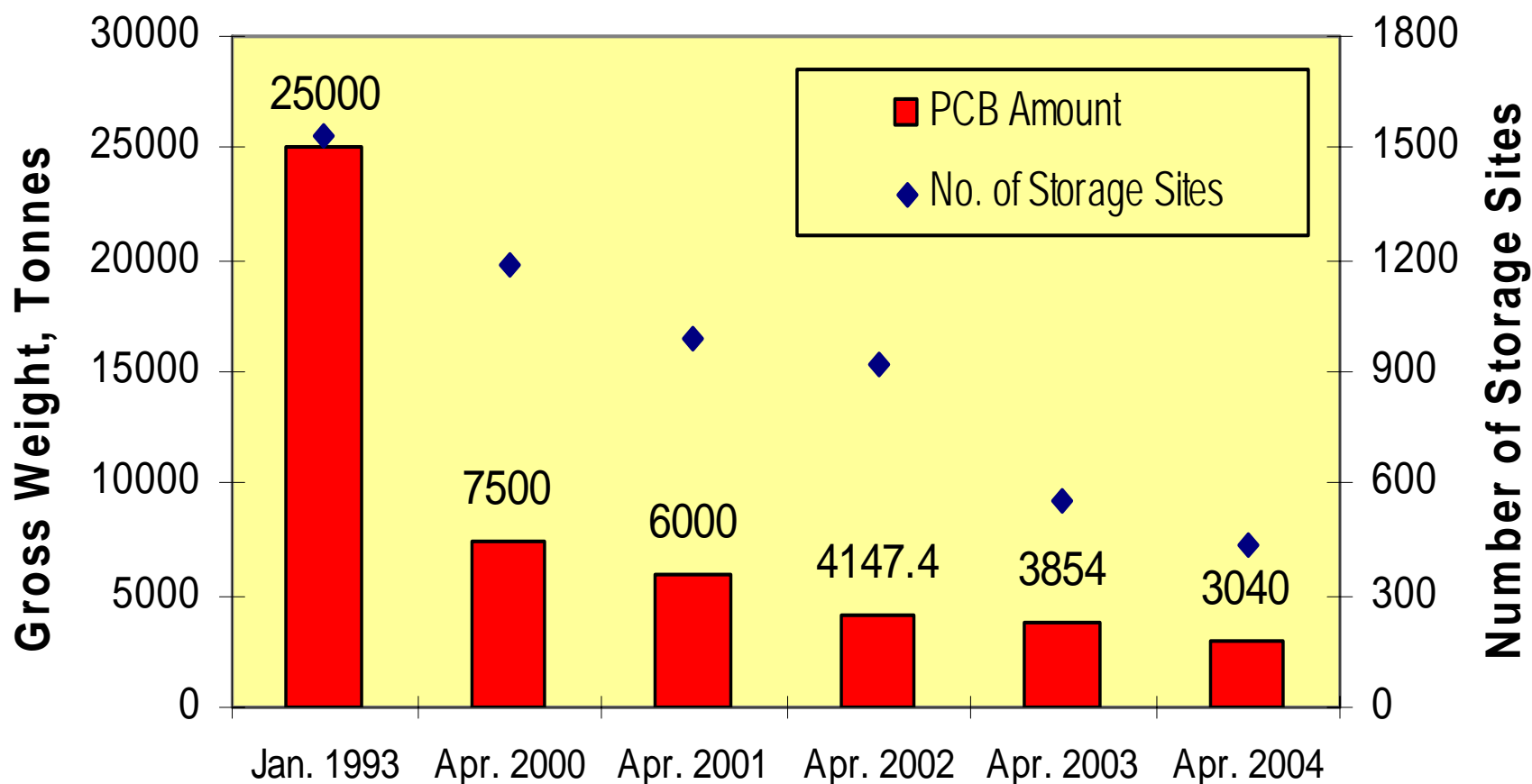
“Seek by 2000, a 90% reduction of high-level PCBs (>1% PCB) that were once, or are currently, in service and accelerate destruction of stored high-level PCB wastes which have the potential to enter the Great Lakes Basin, consistent with the 1994 COA.”

United States

“Seek by 2006, a 90% reduction nationally of high-level PCBs (>500 ppm) used in electrical equipment. Ensure that all PCBs retired from use are properly managed and disposed of to prevent releases within or to the Great Lakes Basin.”

Canadian Accomplishments

Trends in High-Level PCBs in Storage, Ontario



PCB Storage Sites Remaining in Ontario

	December 1994	April 2003	April 2004
Federal Sites	109	25	26
Non-federal Sites	1429	530	407
Total Sites Remaining	1538	555	433

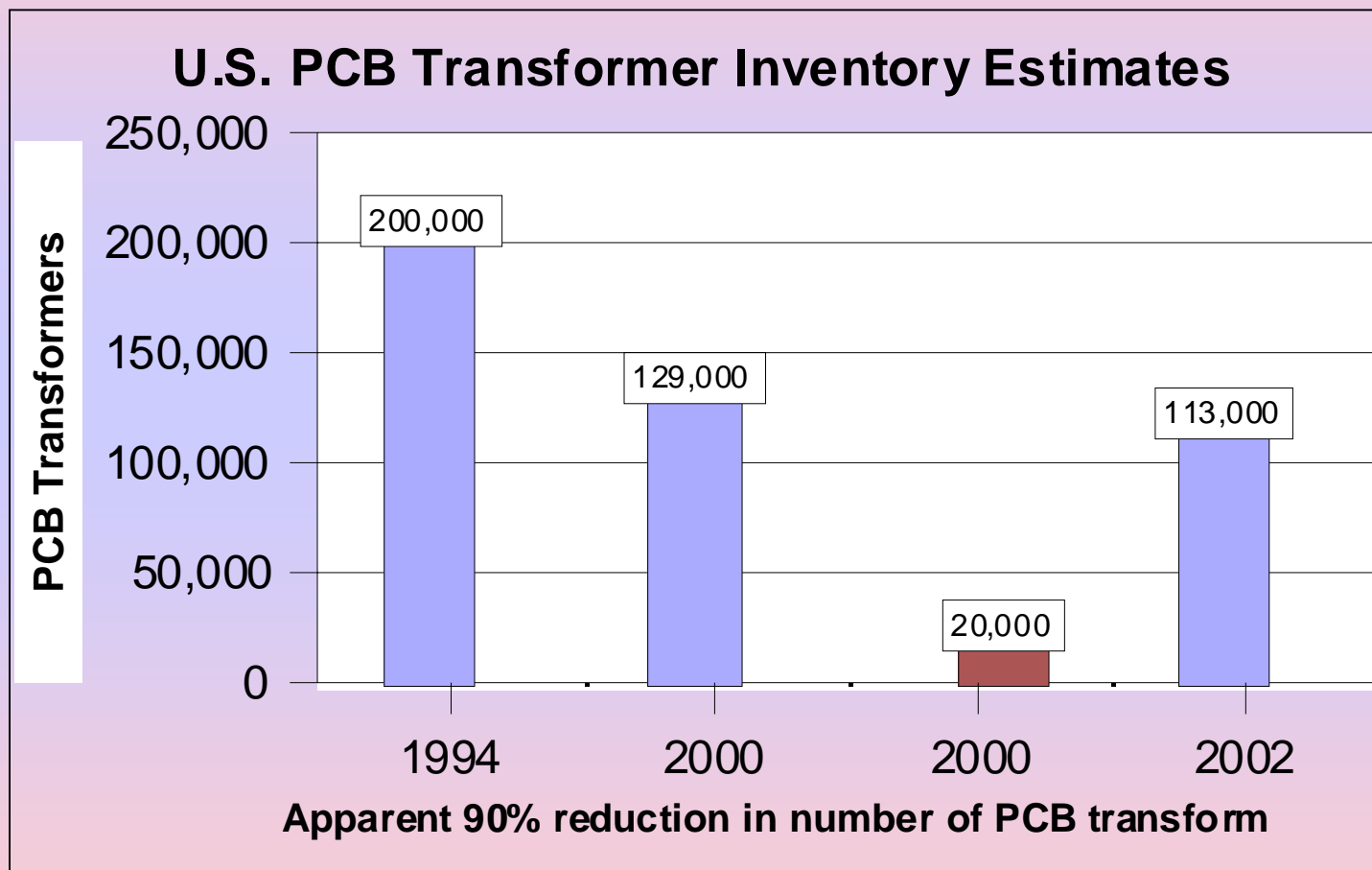
Canadian Accomplishments

- ♦ **Working with various major sectors still having PCBs (particularly high level) in storage or in service (use)**
- ♦ **Implemented 2nd phase of “PCB Recognition and Award” Program**
 - **2004 recipients: City of Thunder Bay and Canadian Niagara Power**
- ♦ **Initiated PCB Newsletter – 1st two editions prepared and distributed**

Industry Sector Success Stories

- **Companies in utility, steel and automotive sectors have achieved PCB reductions.**
 - ◆ **Several small to medium-sized utilities in Ontario achieved 90% or better high level PCB reduction targets**
 - ◆ **All four Ontario steel companies responded to commitment letters**
 - ◆ **Major automobile manufacturers removed all high level PCBs from transformers and capacitors**
- **Have already recognized and awarded some major achievements**
 - ◆ **others are interested in PCB Award**
- **Presently working with other auto industry members who may still have PCBs**

U.S. Accomplishments



Workgroup Accomplishments

- **Source Profiles and Emissions Quantitation of PCB to Ambient Air from Transformers**
 - ◆ **Samples of ambient air around operating PCB askarel transformers collected in Jan & Oct 2004 as part of EPA-funded project; plans being made to collect samples at commercial PCB transformer storage facility**
- **Accelerating Phase-out of PCB Transformers: The Business Case**
 - ◆ **Project to study costs associated with continued use/disposal of PCB transformers; case studies on cost estimates of PCB transformer management and disposal to be developed and incorporated into spreadsheet tool**
 - ◆ **Information for the case studies is currently being compiled, with a project completion date of September, 2005.**

U.S. Accomplishments

- **U.S. PCB Phasedown Program**
 - ♦ EPA Region 5 seeking voluntary reductions in PCB equipment at 25 facilities
 - ♦ Update of EPA PCB Transformer Registration Database has begun
- **MPCA Small Quantity PCB Owner Disposal Cooperative**
 - ♦ Objective is to assist owners of small quantities of PCB in removing contaminated transformers in Lake Superior watershed
 - ♦ Voluntary actions to result in replacement of 82% of transformers owned by three participating facilities and 64% of suspect transformers originally identified
- **U.S. PCB Phase-out at Federal Facilities**
 - ♦ PCBs listed as one of the chemicals to be considered for reduction under a U.S. Executive Order on Greening the Government. EPA will share information on how to identify and dispose of equipment.

Upcoming Actions

- **Continue seeking PCB reduction commitments**
- **Continue outreach efforts**
- **Continue with “Recognition & Award” program**
- **Continue PCB source emission study**
- **Continue PCB phaseout economic study**
- **Pursue New Initiatives**
- **Initiate the BTS Re-Assessment for PCBs**

Barriers/Challenges

- **Need improved communication with and involvement of stakeholders:**
 - ◆ **Web Sites (Environment Canada – www.ec.gc.ca/pcb/)**
 - ◆ **Web Sites (US EPA – www.epa.gov/pcb)**
 - ◆ **BTS PCB (US EPA): www.epa.gov/glnpo/bns/pcb**
 - ◆ **BTS (general): ww.binational.net**
 - ◆ **Ken De, Canadian Co-Chair: ken.de@ec.gc.ca**
 - ◆ **Tony Martig, U.S. Co-Chair: martig.anton@epa.gov www.epa.gov**
- **Overcoming economic/cost barriers to phaseout**